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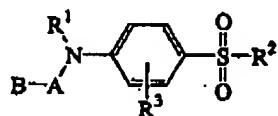
PATENT

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 50-56.

Please amend Claims 1 and 38 as follows.

1. (Amended Herein) A compound of the formula (I):



Formula I

wherein:

A is $-(CR_2)_n-$ where n is 1, 2 or 3 and each R is independently hydrogen or alkyl;

B is substituted aryl or heteroaryl which is optionally substituted with one to four substituents selected from alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkyl-alkyl, halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, alkoxy, amino, acylamino, mono-alkylamino, di-alkylamino, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, heteroalkyl, -COR (where R is hydrogen, alkyl, unsubstituted phenyl or unsubstituted phenylalkyl, $-(CR'R'')_n-COOR$ (where n is an integer from 0 to 5, R' and R'' are independently hydrogen or alkyl, and R is hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkyl-alkyl, phenyl or phenylalkyl), or $-(CR'R'')_n-CONR^aR^b$ (where n is an integer from 0 to 5, R' and R'' are independently hydrogen or alkyl, and R^a and R^b are, independently of each other, hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkyl-alkyl, phenyl or phenylalkyl), wherein heteroaryl is furyl, imidazolyl, pyridyl, thienyl, thiazolyl, benzothiazolyl or pyridazinyl;

R¹ is alkyl, alkenyl, cyanoalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, aralkyl, heteroaralkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclalkyl, heteroalkyl or alkylcarbonylalkyl;

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R^2 is alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, aralkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxy carbonylalkyl, or $NR^{13}R^{14}$
wherein:

R^{13} is hydrogen or alkyl;

R^{14} is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, acyl, haloalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aralkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, carboxyalkyl, alkoxy carbonylalkyl, or aminoalkyl;

R^3 is hydrogen, alkyl, halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, alkoxy; an ester, a carbamate, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

38. (Amended Herein) The compound of Claim 1 wherein:

R^1 is heteroalkyl, wherein heteroalkyl is alkylsulfonylalkyl; and
B is substituted aryl.

REMARKS

As an initial matter, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for stating that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, and 35 U.S.C. §102(b) have been overcome by the response filed on August 6, 2002.

In addition, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesy of a telephone interview on September 23, 2002. During the interview, the Examiner has requested an insertion of the term "unsubstituted" in front of the term "phenyl" to explicitly indicate that the phenyl group which is a substituent of a heteroaryl group is a non-substituted benzene moiety. The term "phenyl" is well recognized in the art as being a non-substituted benzene ring system. However, in order to expedite the prosecution of this application, Claim 1 has been amended by inserting the definition of "optionally substituted heteroaryl" as defined on page 5, line 26 to page 6, line 3, and the term "phenyl" has been amended to further state, albeit now redundant, that it is "unsubstituted phenyl". Since this amendment merely restates the term "phenyl" as understood by one skilled in the art, this amendment does not narrow the scope of Claim 1. This amendment